

CHARITON COURIER

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PROHIBITION for the District of Columbia is one of the serious questions congress will have to wrestle with.

THE Republican nomination for president is degenerating into a free-for-all with all the old political hacks entering for the race.

THE Democratic state committee of Delaware have unanimously endorsed Judge Gray of that state as their choice for president.

MORE land frauds have come to light, but the Republican leaders are too busy letting well enough alone to attend to such small matters.

BANK clearings have fallen off more than one thousand million dollars during the past week, and yet the Republicans declare that protection produces prosperity.

THE call for the Republican national convention would seem to be especially devised to reduce the Taft vote and wipe out LaFollette. First blood for the reactionaries.

SOMEONE proposes that Gray and Bryan would make a winning ticket. What Democrats want are winners; we have been out in the cold too long for the good of the party.

THE only remedy for the panic our Republican administration appears to have is to issue more bonds or other evidences of indebtedness that draw interest for the people to pay.

IN spite of Republican assurances that the protective tariff produces prosperity, there is something abroad in the highest tariff ever known we are suffering from a Republican panic.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT tells congress that the "protective tariff principle" is essential to our welfare. Yet under the highest tariff ever known we are suffering from a Republican panic.

WE have all heard of Nero fiddling while Rome was burning, but it is difficult to believe that the Republicans in congress will stand pat while the people are suffering from the tariff protecting the trusts.

THE Cortelyou annex of the post-office department has been turned over to the Taft boomers, and youngman Hitchcock can now attend to his legitimate duties as first assistant postmaster-general.

CONFIDENCE is a moral and not a legislative question. The only way in which confidence can be restored by legislation is to show that those who make the

laws are both honest and intelligent. Quackery will make bad matters worse.

THE New York Evening Post plaintively asks "when will money become easy?" For a guess we would say, when the Republican national committee begins to spend the campaign fund provided by the trusts and corporations and the national banks.

TOM WATSON has joined the third term boomers and insists that Mr. Roosevelt "simply can not refuse to complete the work which he has so well begun." With the Populists and Hearst's independent league for Roosevelt, he might run on an independent ticket.

MR. ROOSEVELT's recommendation that the government pay the campaign expenses of the political parties has been fully discussed and endorsed by Mr. Bryan in the Commoner, but the proposition is so paternalistic, that it has but little endorsement from Democrats.

A TRAVELING field kitchen is the latest addition to modern armies. The food is cooked while the army is on the move. It would have been given a good chance to be tested by the Russians in their late conflict with Japan, as the czar's army was mostly on the "move."

YES, those sad eyed men on the street cars and in automobiles wending their way to the capitol in Washington are Republican congressmen. They fear the people, who have discovered that Republican policies generate panics, and that the tariff that protects the trusts produces distress.

AS the Republican national convention will be held June 18, it is probable that congress will be adjourned by the Republican leaders by June 1. That would mean that few, if any, of the president's recommendations will be enacted into law, but Speaker Cannon's plan of passing the appropriation bills and then going home will be adopted.

SENATOR DANIEL of Virginia, who ardently supported Mr. Bryan in 1896 and 1900, now takes issue with him for trying to dictate new and untried policies to Democracy. Senator Daniel evidently has grave doubt whether Mr. Bryan can carry the necessary doubtful states and is the most available candidate for president.

THE ship-subsidy lobbyists at Washington claim they have succeeded in uniting the administration and the ship trust for the Humphrey bill, and that to avoid the friction in the committee on merchant marine the bill will be referred to the committee on post-offices and post roads. The bill provides for large subsidies for carrying the mail. Turn the rascals out!

"I won't deviate one single point from what I have said," is

Advice to the Aged.

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the remark that President Roosevelt made to Congressman Hinshaw of Nebraska, who believed the president referred to his nomination for a third term. This so stirred up the president's friends that later in the day the statement was authorized "from a high source" that the remark of the president was intended to apply wholly to his policies and had no third term significance. Hinshaw should know how dangerous it is to quote the president, and that there is a vacancy in the Ananias class yawning for such as he.

UNITED STATES SENATOR DU PONT of Delaware, declares there is no powder trust and that he is interested in railroads and has no connection with a combine. You could rake the United States senate a small toothcomb and find it difficult to find a Republican senator who is not interested in railroads or some combine for plundering the people. They all believe in protection which fosters trusts and their votes show they favor the corporations. The people of Delaware must feel proud of a senator who is "interested in railroads" instead of the people. To prefer a Du Pont to Judge Cray, who represents the state under Democratic rule, is a terrible tumble in the wrong direction.

IGNORANCE would tear down existing institutions and breed riot and anarchy where there is now law and order. It makes no discoveries, no inventions, nor does anything to better the condition of the human race. It goes from the cradle to the grave in a random way, with no pilot, no objective point, and its frail bark is often wrecked in this tempestuous sea of life. It fills the land with vice and crime, builds jails, almshouses and penal institutions, and is the servant of nature. Our schools are here to counteract all this evil influence and to make it possible for every young man and young woman in this country to fit themselves for some useful and highly profitable calling in life and that the world may be better for their having lived in it.

THIS is a land of rushes. Everybody's in a rush. People rush for a train and rush for a seat. Before the train stops they rush for the platform. They rush into a restaurant and give waiter a rush order. They rush the food into their stomachs and then rush for a doctor to get something for their digestion. A fellow will rush a girl a few weeks, rush into an engagement with her, rush after a preacher to get married, and pretty soon he will rush after a divorce. But there are times when the exception proves the rule. For instance, some people rush to a show but not to church; they rush to see a dog fight, an accident or fire, but not to visit the poor who are sick; they rush to see a nonentity who has been boosted into an exalted position, but not to see the very hero who is doing his best.

GETTING TOGETHER.

That was a wise decision of Mr. Bryan when he recommended to his supporters in Chicago to forget the past and that: "Resentment and revenge are the most foolish of things." This was taken to mean that Mr. Bryan's differences with National Committeeman Roger C. Sullivan are at an end. It will be

remembered that Mr. Bryan had read Mr. Sullivan out of the Democratic party, but the Democrats of Illinois at their last convention did not endorse Mr. Bryan's view of the matter, but endorsed Mr. Sullivan. Let us have peace.

DELIBERATION, IMPOSSIBLE.

It will be a long and expensive trip for Democrats from the East to take to attend the Denver convention, especially as the railroads have given notice that no reduced fares will be conceded. But those who attend the convention as delegates may gain in composure what they lose in cash, by the absence of the noisy enthusiasts who have made some conventions a beer garden more than a deliberative assembly. With ten thousand spectators howling for their favorite candidate, nothing that a speaker says can be heard by anyone 50 feet from him, and the art of gesture is not equal to imparting ideas.

NAVAL ARMAMENTS.

The British naval authorities are said to be preparing plans for a warship 50 per cent greater than the Dreadnaught or with a displacement of 30,000 tons. Our naval designers have proposed to build a warship of 40,000 tons, which will cost \$20,000,000. When will this rivalry for the size and number of warships cease, or what will satisfy this craving for war preparations? In the end it must impoverish the people of all countries that strive for supremacy, for there is not only the vast outlay for building these enormous war engines, but the constant expense of keeping them in repair and in commission. Experience shows that in about 10 years our finest warships a few years ago are now but fit for the scrap-heap. The limitation of land and naval armaments is something the world must soon agree upon, for it is senseless to tax people for the creation of that which is really

LARGE PROFITS.

The most profitable year the banks and trust companies ever enjoyed was 1906. Increased dividends were very generally paid, or large additions to surplus were made. The profits of the trust companies of New York aggregated about 40 per cent on their capital. During 1905 the average profit was about 34 per cent. It will be interesting to note how they came out last year when the books are balanced. As the high rate of interest prevailing during 1906 was the cause stated of big profits in that year, the still higher rate of interest this year, should add to their profit. But as many banks and most trust companies are large holders of bonds and stocks, the decline in value of these securities will seriously reduce their assets, if figured on their market value. The reduction in dividends on many stocks will also cut down the income of trust companies, savings banks and other fiduciary corporations, but these losses will be somewhat balanced by the low priced securities they have no doubt purchased during the panic.

REASONABLE PASSENGER RATES

When the legislature of Ohio in 1906 passed the two-cent passenger rate bill, the railroad managers declared it was ruinous and confiscatory. But the official returns of all the railroads in the state for the year ending June 30, 1907, as figured by the Ohio railroad commission, show a substantial increase over the preceding year. This increase is due to the elimination of free passes and excursion rates and the natural growth of passenger traffic. The result in the state of Ohio, however, is not a fair criterion for some other states, because it is traversed by interstate railroads from east to west which must increase the returns for passenger

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traffic. It is also a more densely populated state than many others, ranking higher than New York or Pennsylvania perhaps with its well-to-do farming population. It would seem that the interstate commerce commission could figure out the cost per mile for passenger traffic which could be used as a standard for figuring the rates in each state as the Ohio commission has done for that state. Fair play demands that the railroads shall be allowed to charge reasonable rates that will provide fair interest upon the actual money invested, but no return on watered stock must be expected.

TURN THE RASCALS OUT.

Don't get disheartened at this Republican panic, but vote to "turn the rascals out," that is your only political salvation. As long as the tariff protects the trusts and the United States treasury protects the banks, there will be fictitious prosperity followed by panics and business depression. The Republican policies are those of the gambler, they plunder the people by high taxation and spend the public money for subsidies to their masters, the trusts and corporations. What is needed in honest laws and a faithful administration of the same. Less political fireworks and a chance for honest men to get their dues. With equal rights to all and special privileges to none, there would be no panics, for banks and corporations would be compelled to obey the law and taxation would be reduced to the needs of the government, instead of piling up millions in the United States treasury for the banks and politicians to play with.

The whole country has been on a prolonged Republican debauch and the people are now suffering from it. Extravagance has run riot in federal affairs with the trusts and corporations at the head of the procession, and the administration and the Republican leaders at the tail end. Like all spendthrifts they now are repenting with empty pockets and headaches, and are trying to find out where they are at. They have forced us all to participate in the common disaster, and until a new crew is elected in their places not much improvement can be expected in national affairs.

The law breaking trust magnates are still at large; the railroad corporations are continuing to charge all the traffic will bear, as far as interstate commerce is concerned, while President Roosevelt offers no remedy, but joins with Speaker Cannon in leaving bad enough alone. Business is depressed and wages are falling, but the Republican congress stands pat, having raised their own salaries 50 per cent they can stand it. Thank God the Republican party is far from being as omnipotent as it boasted it was; and the rain and sunshine are, therefore, not mortgaged to the trusts, and the corporations have no monopoly of the wealth of nature. The American farmer will pull us all out of the hole through the

sweat of his brow, in spite of the handicap of Republican mismanagement and folly. Let all who feel the financial distress that Republican policies have produced, determine during the New Year to cease believing Republican boasts, and do their best to turn the rascals out.

THE CASH SYSTEM.

Newspapers Forced to Pay Cash In Advance by P. O. D.

Commencing January 1, 1908, the post-office department will enforce some radical changes in the regulations governing the circulation of newspapers and periodicals through the mails at the pound rate of postage.

Post-office Inspector Reid of Monroe City, who has devoted much of his time during the past three years to investigations of the abuses of second-class mailing privileges, and of the laws relating to the publication and circulation of newspapers and periodicals generally, when asked about the changes, said that while the new regulations are really intended to correct the abuses of the second-class mailing privilege that have grown up during the past 10 years by the so called fake mail order publications, the country publishers will be compelled to assist in the reform movement to a certain extent. The inspector says that some of the new regulations cover the following points:

1. Subscriptions for daily papers will be regarded as expired subscriptions after the expiration of 90 days from the end of the term for which they are paid.
2. Subscriptions for tri-weekly, semi-weekly and weekly papers will be regarded as expire subscriptions after the expiration of 12 months from the end of the term for which they were paid.
3. Subscriptions for semi-monthly, monthly, bi-monthly and quarterly publications will be regarded as expired subscriptions after the expiration of four months from the end of the period for which they were paid.
4. Expired subscriptions, as above defined, will not be counted in the legitimate list of subscribers, but copies may be mailed on account thereof at the transient second-class rate of postage.
5. A legitimate subscriber under the law is one who "voluntarily seeks the paper and pays for it with his own money."
6. The sample copy privilege will be limited to 10 per cent of the bona fide paid subscription list of the paper.

When publishers fail to comply with these, as well as the other regulations of the department, it is made the duty of the postmaster to report the matter to the department.

Subscribers are asked to make note of these changes, which have just been announced in the report of the third assistant postmaster-general. If in arrears, pay up promptly, as, under the new regulations the newspaper subscription list must in the future be on a practically cash basis.

MONEY IN MOONSHINE WHISKY.

Revenue Officer Tells Why the Business is Flourishing.

An old revenue officer who has had years of active experience in raiding stills says that illicit distilling in the south will never be stopped. The reason is that the profits are so large they will always invite to a violation of the law. I will give, he says, an idea of how cheaply moonshine whisky is made, and the immense profits that are reaped from its sale. They take one gallon of cheap black molasses, which costs about 30 cents; two bushels of meal, costing 65 cents per bushel, and some water. This is made into a mash, allowed to ferment, and the stuff then goes through the process of evaporation. This amount of meal, water and molasses makes 40 gallons of whisky, which is sold for \$2 a gallon. Anyone can see the immense profit from this distillation.



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